മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: സർ, മന്ത്രി അവർകൾ പറഞ്ഞതു് ഒരു തക്കതായ പ്രയാസമല്ല. ഇതിനു ചിലവാകുന്ന പണം ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയിൽനിന്നെടുക്കാവുന്നതാണു്. ഇപ്പോൾ മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിയുടെ സെക്രട്ടറിയിടമൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു പണം ചിലവിടുക. പിന്നീടു് അതു് മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി ഗവണ്മെൻറിലേക്കു് അടച്ചില്ലെങ്കിൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറിൽനിന്നു മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റിക്കു കൊടുക്കുന്ന ഗ്രാൻറിൽനിന്നെങ്കിലും ഗവണ്മെൻറിനു് ഈടാക്കുവാൻ കഴിയുന്നതാണു്.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* From any proper person from whom I could get back the amount.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Before the formation of the Municipality how can the assurance be given ?

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Any local gentry who will be in a position to pursuade the Municipality to repay the amount.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: എന്നാൽ ഗവണ്മെൻറു് ചെയ്യണം. മുനിസിപ്പാലിറ്റി വരുമ്പോൾ അവരെക്കൊണ്ടു ചെയ്യിക്കാമെന്നു പറയുകയല്ല വേണ്ടതു്. സ്ഥലം മുഴുവൻ ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ അക്വയർ ചെയ്യണമെന്നുമാത്രമെ ഞാൻ പറയുന്നുള്ളൂ.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* If the people of the locality want a road there must have sufficient patriotism to surrender the land. Then only we will be able to construct the road. It is very difficult to acquire lands.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: അതൊക്കെ സാധാരണ പൊതുനിലാവു വിടുള്ളിലൊ ചൊരുത്തു വിടുള്ളിലൊ ആണെങ്കിൽ സാധിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: എറണാകുളത്തു സാധിക്കും.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. വി. ഇയ്യു: ഇതുപോലെയുള്ള സ്ഥലമല്ല അതു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. അയ്യപ്പൻ: എറണാകുളത്തു വളരെ വിലപിടിച്ച സ്ഥലം ഫ്രീസറണ്ടറിനു കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ടു്.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Cut Motion No. 5.

To improve the health conditions of the Nelliampathi.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Sir, I rise to move *to reduce the allotment of Rs. 3 130 for Sanitation Works proper, Kunnamkulam Town Improvement Scheme by Re. 1. (The need for improving the health conditions of the Nelliampathis).*

Sir, if I were to go on describing the importance of the Nelliampathis I would only be repeating myself. My intention in moving this motion is to draw the attention of our benign Government as well as that of this Honourable House to the possibilities of the Nelliampathis, if its conditions are improved. There are only

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two things which are essential for its improvement. The first is the keeping in proper condition the road leading up to the Nelliampathis and the second is the improvement of its health conditions. I have attempted to draw the attention of the House and the Government to the first question and I am thankful to the Government for the very favourable reply I got. As regards the second question, I need not dilate upon the importance of the place. If I may repeat it only for the purpose of the point in hand, the Nelliyampathis is a very rich and fertile area. There are thousands of acres of plantations, tea coffee, cardamon and also rubber. It is practically a sub-tropical area except on the very top which enjoys a temperate climate. The hills are capable of producing great wealth. I want the House to understand that this forest area is capable of bringing great revenue to the Government and great wealth to the people. I may draw the attention of the House to two concerns, one in Travancore and the other partly in Cochin. The Kannan Devan Company and the Malayalam Plantations are having big budgets. The area worked by them is an infinitesimal percentage of the lands of these States. The produce of the Malayalam Plantations till the end of June was about three million pounds of tea and a million and a half pounds of rubber. I only want to impress upon the Government that if only a small area of forest land is able to produce so much wealth, then, we have to consider the possibilities of the whole of the Nelliampathis if properly improved. The Conservator of Forests has been telling me that there are ten thousand acres ready for assignment. If one acre will yield Rs. 50 one can simply calculate the wealth that is there. As I remarked once before we are here clamouring for the shrimps and crumbs of office—they are not fishes and loaves. There will be posts for 100 Diwan Peishkars on the top of the Nelliampathis if properly developed. I invite every hon'ble member of this House to go and visit the Nelliampathis. I would impress upon the Government the necessity of improving its possibilities and an important thing is to improve its health conditions. Malaria is the worst evil there. If malaria is eradicated the place will improve by itself. I may inform this House that the father of Mr. Hall settled down in the Nelliampathis over fifty years ago. He has got a flourishing estate there and a nice home. Our people are afraid of going there on account of Malaria. My humble effort is to draw the attention of the Government and of the House to make every attempt to improve its health conditions. Some anti-malarial work is being done by the planters. I only want the Government to help in the work further.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Are the planters so poor that they want such help ?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* At present the planting industry

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is on stilts. Tea and rubber are standing on the stilts of restriction. I don't think the industry is now in a very good condition to spend all the money for this. They are doing a lot in that direction.

Even now as a matter of fact some anti-malarial work is being done by the planters themselves. But I request the Government to help them. I would even advocate the necessity of starting a health unit there.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* Are the planters so poor that they should come to the Government for help, You were saying they were very wealthy.

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* At present, if I may say so they are not doing very well. They cannot afford very much now. As I said they are doing all that they can. Any casual enquiry will sohow you that there is need for improving the Nelliampathies, not only for the sake of the planters themselves but also for the sake of the poor people who are working there as coolies.

Then looked at from another aspect, it will afford habitation for very many of our unemployed if the place improves. My friend Mr. Ayyappan had a scheme of sending such people up to the eastern tracts. The place is excellent, not only for tea and rubber but also for fruit culture. I have myself seen oranges growing beautifully up there. I may also say, that the place is ideally suited for the cultivation of cinchona, wattle, etc. I have brought this to the notice of the Advisory Committee. In British India intensive and huge experiments are going on for the cultivation of wattle, cinchona and clonics. I have got information from the Conservator that the place is ideally suited for the growth of cinchona. I am speaking subject to correction. The first essential has been the road and the planters there as well as the people are grateful to Government for the road. The second essential is the improvement of its health conditions. I will now only draw the attention of the House to the improvement of the health conditions there. And if that is done, I feel that not only the planters there but the whole State will be benefitted. I would be gratified if only I impress upon the House this aspect of the matter.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni *(Trichur-South):* On a point of information, what is the height of the Nelliampathis ?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* If I remember correctly, it is about 3,700 feet.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* May I know, Sir, how far the scheme of the colonisation of Jews in the Nelliampathis progressed ?

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Mr. President : There is no such scheme.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam) :* I read about the scheme in the papers some months back.

Mr. President : You seem to have much more knowledge about the scheme.

Mr. K. S. Panickar *(Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram):* May I know what is the population of Nelliampathis ?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters) :* Though I am no part of the Government, I may say that there are thousands of our people working up there, besides the permanent settlers and there is even a market there.

* **Dr. A. R. Menon** *(Minister for Rural Development):* Sir, Government have incurred a huge expenditure in opening up a fine road mainly for the convenience and benefit of the planters. It is only proper to say that the Government do not get any return worth mentioning from that road. We are not exactly complaining. I am asking whether it would not be the duty of the planters themselves as represented by my hon'ble friend here to take this anti-malarial measures as far as possible and then ask for some help from the Government. I am asking, what measures have they taken so far to protect the interest, the lives and the health of the poor coolies there?

Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Without interruption, Sir, I say much has been done by the planters to improve the health conditions, for example, by spraying of solutions and such other things.

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* If it is being done and if the planters are not in a position to carry out additional work, we will consider what further help we are in a position to offer them. But I want to say that as a class the planters are a very opulent type of people and knowing our financial difficulties and also knowing the large number of poor people living in the plains, in contrast to the rich planters living in the hills, I hope the hon'ble member will come to us only as a last resort. Excepting financial help all other kinds of help will be forthcoming from the Government. We will consider anyhow whether we would be able to supplement the beneficent work of the planters in this line. If the hon'ble member will make a casual visit and take tea with me, we will consider what further action could be taken in order to safeguard the interests, the health and life of the poor people working there to whom we owe a great responsibility.

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member.

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Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* It is not with any selfish motive that I have brought this matter before the Government. It is only in the interests of planters and also in the interests of thousands of coolies that work on the hills that I represent these matters here. It would also benefit those who might probably go and settle down there in future. So far as I am concerned, I have no planting interests there.

The opening words of the Hon'ble Ministerregarding the money spent on the road, I submit Sir, will be only an argument in my favour. There is a beautiful road there, I admit. It is because you cannot spend a few thousands now to improve the place, that you do not derive any benefit out of the road. So certainly I submit that it is an argument in my favour. On account of the very sympathetic assurance given by the Hon'ble Minister, I beg leave of the House to withdraw my motion.

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* Does the Hon'ble Minister or the Conservator of Forests know of any area in the Nelliampathies free from malaria?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):* I do not know of any.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Cut Motion No. 6.

Necessity for a midwife for every village.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar *(Cheruthuruthi): To reduce the allotment of Rs. 32,203 for Sanitation and Conservancy by Re. 1. (The necessity for a midwife for every village).*

Sir, a midwife for every village is the subject matter of the motion that I have tabled. The necessity and importance of a midwife for every village had been admitted by Government. The only obstacle in their way, according to them, is finance. I am told there is a large saving by the abolition of two of the health centres. I would request the Government to spend the whole amount saved in giving as many midwives as possible to as many villages and achieve the ideal that I propose to place before them by means of this token motion. I therefore request the Government to expedite this programme of work.

മിസ്റ്റർ പുത്തൂർ അച്യുതമേനോൻ: സർ, നാട്ടിൻപുറത്തെ കായ്ഫങ്ങൾപറ യുന്നതാണ് സാധാരണയായി പണമില്ലെന്ന വാദം പുറപ്പെടുവിക്കാനുള്ള ഗവ ൺമെണ്ടിന്റെ ക്ലൃതൽ യാതൊരു സംഖ്യയും ചിലവാക്കാതെ തന്നെ അത്യാവ ശ്യം വേണ്ട ഒരു കായ്ഫം നടപ്പിലാക്കാൻ കഴിയുമെന്ന് അറിയുന്നതിൽ ഞാൻ വളരെ സന്തോഷിക്കുന്നു.

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